

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/506,681

Examiner

Hemant M. Desai

Applicant(s)

HASHIMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

3721

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 6/16/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,5,7-34.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Enoch Peavey on 8/9/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 2, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 5, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 7, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 9, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 10, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 12, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 13, line 1.

Insert -- a plurality of deeper grooves, which are deeper than the shallow grooves, and are formed in the longitudinal direction along the bottom face between the shallow grooves; -- after "the grooves;", claim 14, line 13.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 15, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 16, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 17, line 1.

Insert -- a -- after "for", claim 18, line 1.

Art Unit: 3721

Inset -- the -- after "portions of", claim 18, line 2.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 19, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 20, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 21, line 1.

Inset -- of -- after "plurality", claim 22, line 10.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 23, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 24, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 25, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "with", claim 26, line 1.

Inset -- the -- after "portions of", claim 27, line 2.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 28, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 29, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 30, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 31, line 1.

Delete "for plastic sheet", claim 32, line 1.

Delete "for a plastic sheet", claim 34, line 1.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1 and 14, Japanese Patents ('777 and '909) fail to disclose the grooves of medium depth, which are deeper than the shallow grooves and shallower than the deep grooves located between the shallow grooves.

Regarding claims 4 and 18, Japanese Patent ('909) fails to disclose the blades of medium infeed, which are deeper than infeed of the shallow blades and

Art Unit: 3721

shallower than the infeed of the deep blades, are formed between adjacent shallow blades. Regarding claim 8, Kawata et al. ('808) fails to disclose that the grooves are inclined at a specified angle to the rule forming direction of the folding rules to arrange the grooves in a rope pattern, wherein inclined side surfaces of adjacent grooves contact each other. Regarding claim 11, Kawata et al. ('808) fails to disclose that the blades are inclined at a specified angle to the rule forming direction of the folding rules to arrange in a rope pattern, wherein inclined side surfaces of adjacent blades contact each other. Regarding claim 22, Kawata et al. ('808) fails to disclose a plurality of protrusions that are smaller than the shallow and deep grooves are formed in the longitudinal direction along the top of the shallow and deep grooves. Regarding claim 27, Kawata et al. ('808) fails to disclose a plurality of recesses smaller than the shallow and deep blades are formed in the longitudinal direction along the bottom of the shallow and deep blades.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hemant M. Desai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4458. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM-5:00 PM, Mon-Thurs..

Art Unit: 3721

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi I. Rada can be reached on (571) 272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hemant M. Desai

Hemant M Desai
Examiner
Art Unit 3721

HMD